

Claim 18 (Previously Amended). The method in accordance with claim 17 wherein an antioxidant selected from the group consisting of Vitamin C, alpha-lipoic acid, l-carnitine and mixture thereof is fed to the pet.

Claim 19 (Previously Amended). The method of claim 12 wherein effective amounts of an antioxidant of Vitamin C, l-carnitine, alpha-lipoic acid or mixtures thereof are fed to the pet.

Claim 20 (Previously Amended). The method of claim 19 wherein at least about 50 ppm of Vitamin C is fed to the pet.

Claim 21 (Previously Amended). The method of claim 19 wherein at least about 25 ppm of alpha-lipoic acid is fed to the pet.

Claim 22 (Previously Amended). The method of claim 19 wherein at least about 50 ppm of l-carnitine is fed to the pet.

Claim 23 – 25 (CANCELED)

Claim 26 (Original) A method for increasing the mental capacity of an aged companion pet which comprises feeding the pet a diet having a sufficient amount of antioxidant or mixture thereof to accomplish the increase.

Claim 27 – 30 (CANCELED)

Claim 31 (Previously Amended) The method in accordance with claim 26 wherein the antioxidant Vitamin E is fed to the pet in at least about 100 ppm as measured by the diet.

Claim 32 (Previously Amended) The method in accordance with claim 31 wherein an antioxidant selected from the group consisting of Vitamin C, alpha-lipoic acid, l-carnitine and mixtures thereof is fed to the pet.

Claim 33 (Previously Amended) The method of claim 26 wherein effective amounts of antioxidant Vitamin C, l-carnitine, alpha-lipoic acid and mixtures thereof are fed to the pet.

Claim 34 (Previously Amended) The method of claim 33 wherein at least about 50 ppm of Vitamin C is fed to the pet.

Claim 35 (Previously Amended) The method of claim 33 wherein at least 25 ppm of alpha-lipoic acid is fed to the pet.

Claim 36 (Previously Amended) The method of claim 33 wherein at least about 50 ppm of l-carnitine is fed to the pet.

Claim 37 (CANCELED)

*claim 38)*

Claim 39 (Previously Added) A method for inhibiting the loss of learning ability or increasing the learning ability of an aged companion pet in need of such treatment which comprises feeding the pet an antioxidant or mixture of antioxidants at levels sufficient to accomplish the said inhibiting or increasing, the said antioxidant selected from the group consisting Vitamin E, Vitamin C, alpha lipoic acid, l-carnitine and mixtures thereof.

Claim 40 (New) The method in accordance with Claim 39 wherein Vitamin E is fed to the pet in at least about 100 ppm as measured by the diet.

Claim 41 (New) The method in accordance with Claim 39 wherein Vitamin C is fed to the pet in at least about 50 ppm as measured by the diet..

Claim 42 (New) The method in accordance with Claim 39 wherein alpha lipoic acid is fed to the pet in at least about 25 ppm as measured by the diet.

Claim 43 (New) The method in accordance with Claim 39 wherein l-carnitine is fed to the pet in at least about 50 ppm as measured by the diet.

Respectfully submitted,



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